

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING WHEATON CHRISTIAN GRAMMAR SCHOOL AS A 2017 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

**HON. PETER J. ROSKAM**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 18, 2018*

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Wheaton Christian Grammar School in Winfield, Illinois on being named a 2017 National Blue Ribbon Award winner. The National Blue Ribbon Award is presented to schools for outstanding academic performance and Wheaton Christian Grammar School is well-deserving of this recognition.

Founded by local parents in 1942, Wheaton Christian Grammar School exists to educate, train, and nurture children for godliness and excellence, equipping them to engage and transform their world for Jesus Christ. Seventy-six years later, the dedication, persistent prayer, and sacrifice of those founding parents is evident in today's school which is widely recognized for its academic rigor, breadth of programming, and spiritual vitality.

In order to unlock the full potential of its student body, Wheaton Christian Grammar School offers a variety of challenging opportunities to suit the interests of nearly every student. From after-school drama clubs, chess teams, spelling bees, community service programs, and athletic activities such as cross-country, soccer, and basketball, students at Wheaton Christian Grammar School participate in life experiences that help shape the character of each student, as well as provide them with an outstanding education.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Wheaton Christian Grammar School on being named a 2017 National Blue Ribbon Award winner.

RECOGNIZING JIM PIRO

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 18, 2018*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today friends, coworkers, and admirers of Jim Piro gathered to acknowledge his 37 years of service to Portland General Electric and to our community.

For the last eight years Jim has been president and CEO of Oregon's largest public utility. In that role he has worked to help advance that utility's efforts to contribute to Oregon's clean energy standards. During his tenure, PGE worked to strengthen its portfolio of clean energy, and is scheduled to be coal free by 2035. By 2040, half of Oregon's electricity will come from renewables and PGE will play a significant role in that transition. Jim was one of the first business leaders to denounce the Trump Administration's decision to withdraw

from the Paris climate accord, stressing the importance of national and international actions on climate, which are becoming more urgent over the last decade. He has provided business and civic leadership that has made a difference in the Portland community and beyond. We wish this proud Benson High School engineer well as he transitions into this next phase.

HONORING MR. EDMOND "NED" CULLINAN

**HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 18, 2018*

Ms. ESTY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ned Cullinan upon his retirement from the City of Waterbury, Connecticut's Democratic Town Committee. Ned has been a true leader in the Waterbury community for decades, ranging from his work as a builder of common ground within a wonderfully diverse politically active city to his service with a variety of local civic organizations.

A native of Waterbury, Connecticut, Ned took an active role in his community and showed an interest in politics from a young age. He was elected Vice President of his senior class at Sacred Heart High School, and was an avid basketball player. He went on to play at Providence College, where he graduated in 1973.

Through his decades of community work, Ned has had a tremendous impact, not only in Waterbury, but throughout Connecticut. Everyone in the city's political community knows Ned for his tireless work to ensure that all of the diverse voices of the city are heard by public officials. He was first elected to the Waterbury Democratic Town Committee in 1988, and then went on to serve as Second Vice Chairman, and finally as Chairman of the DTC for nearly thirteen years. In this role, Ned worked with local, state, and federal leaders to ensure they were accountable to Waterbury's residents and invested in the community's success.

Ned has also been a leader in a number of civic organizations in the Brass City. He was Director of the Bunker Hill Sports Association for fifteen years, coaching basketball, baseball, and soccer. He has also served as the President of the Holy Cross Father's Club and the Greater Waterbury Olympian Club. Professionally, Ned worked for United Technologies for many years, retiring recently. I wish him an enjoyable retirement with plenty of time to spend with his wonderful wife Anne Marie and his loving family and many friends.

Mr. Speaker, Ned has been an instrumental leader in Waterbury, Connecticut for decades, using his time and talents to advocate for the city and to bring our community together. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor my friend, and a devoted Waterburian and Democrat, Ned Cullinan here today.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF JOHN PAUL FOX

**HON. TRENT KELLY**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 18, 2018*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of John Paul Fox who died on December 18, 2017, at his home in Houston, Mississippi. Mr. Fox served his fellow citizens during a long and exemplary career in the field of law and through public service. He was a man known for his ready smile, quick sense of humor, abundant kindness, extreme generosity, and devotion to family.

Mr. Fox was born on December 31, 1933, in Columbiana, Alabama, where he graduated from Shelby County High School. He was a standout student and athlete. He was a member of the Boy Scouts of America and rose to the rank of Eagle Scout. While in high school, Mr. Fox worked after school and during the summers at a local drug store and for attorney "Handy" Ellis. It was his association with Mr. Ellis that inspired him to pursue a career in the field of law.

Mr. Fox received a football scholarship to the University of Alabama. Mr. Fox was also a member of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity. He graduated with a business degree in 1956, which his family said was appropriate because he was known for his entrepreneurial spirit. After graduation, Mr. Fox enlisted in the U.S. Army and completed Officer Candidate School (OCS). Later, he worked as an adjuster for USF&G in Birmingham, Alabama. Prior to moving to Mississippi to attend the University of Mississippi School of Law, Mr. Fox met his future wife, Marion Miller. They were married in 1959, while he was a law student. In 1961, Mr. and Mrs. Fox moved to Houston, where he practiced law. Mr. Fox's family said that he embraced practicing law in a small town setting because he liked helping people. He also enjoyed the technical intrigue of law which he continued to practice until one day prior to his death.

Mr. Fox's military career continued when he enlisted in the Mississippi Army National Guard where he was assigned to the Pontotoc division. It was during his service in the National Guard that he defended James Meredith, the first African American student admitted to the segregated University of Mississippi. Mr. Fox's family said he enjoyed telling stories about that six-week assignment which included digging a fox hole in the law school dean's yard.

While practicing law, Mr. Fox entered public service. He served as Houston City Attorney. Mr. Fox also served as the attorney for the Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors, Chickasaw County Development Foundation, and as legal counsel for the State Jaycee President. He was also active in the Chickasaw Republican Party and served as their first chairman.

Mr. Fox is survived by his wife of 58 years, Marion Miller Fox; his three children, Elizabeth

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